



Jothi with Indian students of UMS during the "Theebangal Programme 2011"

NS7 29/10/2011 11

Big celebrations further strengthen unity amongst various races, religions

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KOTA KINABALU: Major celebrations by the communities of various races and religions in the State are opportunities to further strengthen the unity amongst the people in Sabah.

Sabah MIC liaison chairman Datuk V Jothi said these celebrations can also put away self-serving attitude and instead enhance the nation's harmony and peace.

"The country's mul-

ti-racial communities together celebrate Deepavali every year just like how they celebrate Hari Raya Aidilfitri, Chinese New Year, Kaamatan, Christmas and others," he said in his speech during the "Theebangal Programme 2011" at the Dewan Mak-sak Likas here recently.

The programme was organised by the Indian Arts, Culture & Heritage Secretariat (Sekwi) of Universiti Malaysia Sabah (UMS) 2011-12 Session.

The Theebangal is an annual activity organised by the Sekwi in conjunc-

tion with the Deepavali celebration.

Jothi said the programme is one of the many ways to strengthen relationships between the Indian students at UMS.

"Moreover, not all Indian students are able to celebrate Deepavali with their families in Peninsular Malaysia so this programme somehow fills that vacuum," he said.

"I also hope the 'Theebangal Programme 2011' would be able to instil a sense of unity amongst UMS students," Jothi said.